## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-41, 57-58, 66-68, 72, and 81-86 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends independent Claim 31 without introducing any new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 3-6, 8-9, 11-17, 22-29, 31-32, 36-38, 40-41, 57-58, 66-68, 72, and 81-86 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakatani et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,330,392, hereinafter "Nakatani") in view of Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 6,532,039.). Claims 7 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakatani in view of Anderson, in further view of Preston et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,052,040, hereinafter "Preston"). Claims 18-21, 33-35, and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakatani in view of Anderson, in further view of McGee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,766,098, hereinafter "McGee").

First, Applicants wish to thank Examiners Tran and Chowdhury for the courtesy of an interview granted to Applicants' representative Nikolaus P. Schibli, Reg. No. 56,994, and Jonathan DeVile on May 6, 2009, at which time the outstanding issues in this case were discussed. Arguments similar to the ones developed hereinafter were presented. Examiners Tran and Chowdhury confirmed that the reference Anderson fails to teach the features related to the pre-defined list of takes that is recited in independent Claim 1. They also indicated that they would reconsider the outstanding grounds for rejection upon formal submission of such amendment.

To clarify a feature of Applicants' independent Claim 31, this claim is amended to recite "the pre-defined list of takes previously received by the camera." These features find non-limiting support in Applicants' specification at page 13, lines 3-21. No new matter has been added.

Moreover, the present response is filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 together with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), so that two references that were found in an Examination Report of a counter-part European patent application can be acknowledged as being considered in the present application. The two references are the European Patent Application EP 0915471, and the International Patent Publication WO 97/39411.

In response to the rejection of independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), in light of the discussion with Examiner Tran and Chowdhury on May 6, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection.

Briefly summarizing, Applicants' Claim 1 is directed to a camera which is configured to generate media data signals. The camera includes a recording unit which is configured to record the media data signals on a recording medium, a meta data generation processor is configured to generate meta data identifying the content of the media data signals in response to the media data signals, and a communications processor which is configured to communicate the meta data separately from the recording medium. In addition, the meta data generation processor is ***configured to receive a pre-defined list of takes of media data signals to be generated*** and to ***generate the meta data in association with the list of takes***, and the communications processor is configured to communicate the meta data in association with the list of takes.

The pending Office Action rejected the features of Applicants' Claim 1, with a combination of Nakatani and Anderson. Nakatani, however, fails to teach anything related to a camera, and also fails to teach anything related to a "pre-defined list of takes." Nakatani is directed to a video data editing apparatus that can be embodied in a DVD-RAM recorder. (Nakatani, Abstract, col. 32, ll. 55-63.) This is acknowledged by the pending Office Action. (Office Action, p. 3, ll. 4-8.)

However, the January 7, 2009 Office Action rejects the features of Applicants' Claim 1 related to the pre-defined list of takes based on the proposition that Anderson describes the above feature related to the list of takes, and that it would have been obvious to modify Nakatani's video data editing apparatus by importing this feature from Anderson to arrive at the features of Applicants' Claim 1. (Office Action, p. 3, ll. 9-18.) Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the cited passages of Anderson also fail to teach a meta data generation processor as required by Applicants' independent Claim 1.

The reference Anderson is directed to a method or system to provide electronic "stamps" for digital images. (Anderson, Abstract.) Anderson explains that "stamps" are information icons that can be overlaid over digital image, for example to indicate the time when the image was taken, or other information related to the photo. (Anderson, col. 1, ll. 20-29.) This feature is used in a case a viewer of the image wants to recall certain information related to the pictures, to identify the pictures. (Anderson, col. 1, ll. 31-39.) Anderson's system includes an imaging device 114, such as a camera, that can transmit captured images to a computer 118, to add such stamps to images. (Anderson, Figs. 2 and 3, col. 3, l. 50, to col. 4, l. 10, col. 9, l. 57, to col. 10, l. 9.) A "stamp" can thereby by applied to a captured or preprocessed image, by locating and overlaying it to a pre-determined X-Y position in the image. (Anderson, Fig. 8, Step 740, Fig. 11, Step 910.)

Moreover, Anderson explains that in addition to predefined X-Y position of the stamp in the image, other parameters of the stamp can be predefined, before the image is captured. (Anderson, col. 8, ll. 35-38.) Anderson explains different parameters that can be predefined for the stamp, such as color of the stamp, font size, font type, graphic elements such as a company logo, etc. (Anderson, col. 8, l. 43, to col. 9, l. 28.) However, Anderson fails to teach all the features of Applicants' independent Claim 1. In particular, Anderson fails to teach:

> wherein said meta data generation processor is configured to receive ***a pre-defined list of takes of media data signals to be generated*** and to generate

> said meta data in association with said list of takes, and said communications processor is configured to communicate said meta data in association with said list of takes.

(Claim 1, portions omitted, emphasis added.) Anderson merely explains that some "stamps" that can be overlaid at a certain position of a digital image can have some predefined characteristics. But Anderson does not recite a pre-defined list of *takes* of media data signals *to be generated.* In addition, Anderson's "stamps" are fully integrated into the image data, so that they can be viewed by an user, for example after printing. (Anderson, col. 1, ll. 31-35, col. 10, ll. 19-26.) Therefore, no meta data is generated in association with said list of takes, and there is no communications processor configured to communicate said meta data *separately* from said recording medium, as further required by Applicants' independent Claim 1, because in Anderson the stamp is integrated into image data.

Therefore, even if the combination of Nakatani and Anderson is assumed to be proper, the cited passages of the combination fails to teach every element of Applicants' amended independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse, and request reconsideration of this rejection based on these references.

Independent Claims 9, 13 and 16 recite features that are analogous to the features recited in independent Claim 1, but are directed to a camera (Claim 9), a method of generating media data signals (Claim 13), and a camera (Claim 16). Accordingly, for the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 9, 13 and 16, and the rejections of all associated dependent claims, are also believed to be overcome in view of the arguments regarding independent Claim 1.

Moreover, independent Claim 31 is directed to a meta data generation processor including *inter alia* a sample image generation processor which is configured to receive video signals being recorded on to a recording medium, and ***to generate at least one sample image which is representative of a video image from the video signals being recorded in***

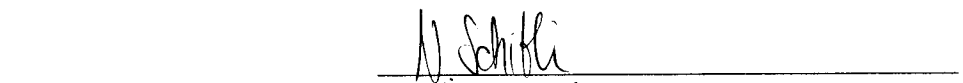
***association with a pre-defined list of takes of video signals,*** the pre-defined list of takes previously received by the camera. Independent Claim 37 recites analogous features to independent Claim 31, but directed to a method of generating video signals representative of an image source. These features are also taught by the applied references Nakatani and Anderson. As explained above, Anderson fails to teach anything related to the reception of a pre-defined list of takes. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of independent Claims 31 and 37.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 3-9, 11-41, 57-58, 66-68, 72-75 and 79-86 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Nikolaus P. Schibli, Ph.D.
Registered Patent Agent
Registration No. 56,994

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)